Late Stage Lung Disease Sufferers Now Exploring Stem Cell Therapies as Alternative to Lung Transplantation

Lung Institute Educates the Public on the Restorative Nature of Regenerative Medicine in Support of Healthy Lung Month

Tampa, Florida (PRWEB) October 31, 2013 -- Regenerative medicine is the latest medical technology for the restoration and repair of damaged lung tissue caused by lung disease. As the leaders in lung treatment, Lung Institute’s physicians have harnessed this advancement in modern medicine to bring patients suffering with conditions like chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and pulmonary fibrosis an innovative treatment choice that better's their quality of life and helps them to breathe easier.

Often, many of these patients have been told that lung transplantation is their only option, and as a result many are turning to advanced treatments such as pulmonary stem cell therapies to enhance lung function and regenerate healthy lung tissue. Read the excerpt from the Lung Institute blog below to learn more.

How do stem cells restore damaged lung tissue?
Lung Institute utilizes autologous stem cells, meaning those derived from the patient’s own blood or fat tissue, for treatment. These somatic, or adult, stem cells have the unique ability to self-renew and replicate, and are capable of forming any type of tissue found in the human body, including lung tissue.

Both stem cell therapies and lung transplantation have been proven, in many cases, to improve sufferer’s quality of life. However, lung transplantation is an invasive inpatient surgery that has far riskier complications and a longer recovery time.

To read the full text, visit the Lung Institute website at LungInstitute.com.

About Lung Institute
At Lung Institute (LI), we are changing the lives of hundreds of people across the nation through the innovative technology of regenerative medicine. We are committed to providing patients a more effective way to address pulmonary conditions and improve quality of life. Our physicians, through their designated practices, have gained worldwide recognition for the successful application of revolutionary minimally invasive stem cell therapies. With over a century of combined medical experience, our doctors have established a patient experience designed with the highest concern for patient safety and quality of care. Visit our website at LungInstitute.com or call us today at 1-855-469-5864, for more information.

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Stem Cell Therapy vs. Lung Transplant for Lung Disease

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is the third leading cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States, and a top five cause of death worldwide. Although there are many suppressive treatments available to COPD sufferers, the progressive nature of this disease almost unavoidably leads to a diminished quality of life.

Often, once most types of conventional treatment methods are exhausted, COPD sufferers are told that their
treatment path is going to result in a lung transplant. Before undergoing this invasive, and sometimes risky, surgery it is important to know the outcomes of a lung transplant.

The excerpt below, from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), outlines the life expectancy of an individual post lung transplant surgery.

“In recent years, short-term survival after lung transplant has improved. Recent data on single-lung transplants show that:

• About 78 percent of patients survive the first year
• About 63 percent of patients survive 3 years
• About 51 percent of patients survive 5 years

Survival rates for double-lung transplants are slightly better. Recent data show that the median survival for single-lung recipients is 4.6 years. The median survival for double-lung recipients is 6.6 years. Talk with your doctor about what these figures may mean for you.”

As you can see, the median number of years added to a person’s life post lung transplant ranges from 4.6 years to 6.6 years depending on the type of surgery received. This procedure can improve quality of life, but there is also risk of complications including infection, rejection of the new lung(s), and in some cases, an increased chance of developing diabetes, kidney damage, and osteoporosis.

Regenerative therapies are emerging as an alternative and preemptive treatment, to the invasive option of lung transplantation.

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What is the stem cell treatment process like?
This minimally invasive, outpatient procedure is performed over the course of three days within our office located in downtown Tampa, FL. For pulmonary conditions, the stem cells are stimulated to increase in number by oral and injectable agents. Next, the stem cells are derived from the patient’s own blood or bone marrow and are given back to the patient intravenously. The patient will receive agents by nebulizer and by injection that have been shown to repair and regenerate lung tissue.

In conclusion: Stem Cell Therapy vs. Lung Transplant for Lung Disease
Both stem cell therapies and lung transplantation have been proven, in many cases, to improve sufferer’s quality of life. However, lung transplantation is an invasive, inpatient surgery that can have risky complications and a longer recovery time.

Stem cell therapies do not replace the need for a lung transplant, but can slow the progression of lung disease, and therefore prolong the need for a transplant. Stem cells and other forms of regenerative therapies are also proven to significantly improve sufferer’s quality of life.

A recent Lung Institute patient, Peter Pike, was diagnosed with COPD and underwent stem cell therapies with our clinic in Tampa a little over 5 months ago. He is now able to perform everyday functions without feeling
out of breath; even his wife says his overall disposition has improved. To learn more about how Pike’s life has improved, watch his testimonial video by clicking here.

To learn more about lung disease research in the field of regenerative medicine, visit our research archive by clicking here.
Contact Information
Kellie Hero
Lung Institute
http://www.curemysleepapnea.com
+1 813-503-8698

Online Web 2.0 Version
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